UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 March 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *03/10/2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

Response to Amendment

Examiner acknowledges receipt of Applicant's Arguments/Remarks dated 01/20/2008.

Claims 1-12 are pending.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 - 12 have been considered but are moot in

view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or
> described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
> matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole
> would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
> skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived
> by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1 – 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chou et al

(US 7,043,569) in view of Moon et al (US 7,000,052).

Chou discloses method and apparatus for configuring an interconnect device comprising

the following features:

Regarding claim 1, Chou discloses an adaptive interconnect (see Fig. 2 and col. 1 lines 40

- 45, switch 200) for providing an interface between multiple modules and a control system

comprising: a) a control system interface (see Fig. 3A, processor subsystem interface 304); b) a

plurality of module interfaces (see Fig. 2, PORTS 1 - 9); and c) adaptive interconnect logic (see

Fig. 2, management port 208) associated with the control system interface and the plurality of

module interfaces (see Fig. 2 and Fig. 3A, management port is coupled to ports 1 – 9 and

processor subsystem interface 304) and adapted to: i) negotiate with a module over a control path (see col. 3 lines 25 – 47, competing requests for switch resources) via one of the plurality of module interfaces to identify an interface personality for the module (see col. 6 lines 64 – 67, identifying a storage device storing the configuration data and sending a request for the configuration data); ii) load the interface personality based on negotiations with the module (see col. 3 lines 32 – 37, loading the configuration data); and iii) apply the interface personality to the one of the plurality of module interfaces (see col. 4 lines 42 – 46 and col. 6 lines 20 – 28, providing the configuration data to various components of switch 200).

Regarding claims 2 and 8, Chou discloses wherein different interface personalities can be implemented simultaneously among the plurality of module interfaces (see col. 4 lines 20 – 25 lines 42 – 46 and col. 6 lines 20 – 28, providing the configuration data to units of the switch).

Regarding claims 3 and 9, Chou discloses wherein the adaptive interconnect logic is further adapted to renegotiate with the module over the control path if initial negotiations fail (see col. 4 lines 43 – 50, reloading the configuration information when resetting the interconnect device).

Regarding claims 4 and 10, Chou discloses wherein if the renegotiation fails, the adaptive interconnect logic is further adapted to send a notification of failure (see col. 3 lines 55 – 67, verify whether the POST has passed or failed).

Regarding claims 5 and 11, Chou discloses wherein the adaptive interconnect logic (see Fig. 2, management port 208) is further adapted to: a) receive a stimulus indicative of a change in personality for the module (see col. 5 lines 49 – 62, receiving an indicator); b) renegotiate with the module over the control path via one of the plurality of module interfaces to identify a new

interface personality for the module (see col. 4 lines 43 – 50, reloading the configuration

information when resetting the interconnect device); c) load the new interface personality based

on the renegotiations with the module (see col. 4 lines 40 – 42, loading configuration

information); and d) apply the new interface personality to the one of the plurality of module

interfaces (see col. 4 lines 42 – 46 and col. 6 lines 20 – 28, providing the configuration data to

units of the switch).

Regarding claim 7, Chou discloses a method for providing an interface between multiple

modules and a control system comprising: a) negotiating with a module over a control path (see

col. 3 lines 25 – 47, competing requests for switch resources) via one of a plurality of module

interfaces to identify an interface personality for the module (see col. 6 lines 64 – 67, identifying

a storage device storing the configuration data and sending a request for the configuration data);

b) loading the interface personality based on negotiations with the module (see col. 3 lines 32 –

37, loading the configuration data); and c) applying the interface personality to the one of the

plurality of module interfaces (see col. 4 lines 42 – 46 and col. 6 lines 20 – 28, providing the

configuration data to various components of switch 200).

Chou discloses the claimed limitations as stated above. Chou does not specifically

disclose the following features: regarding claims 1 and 7, selecting the interface personality;

regarding claims 5 and 11, selecting the new interface personality; regarding claims 6 and 12,

wherein negotiating, selecting and applying the interface personality are dynamic and occur

automatically upon plugging the module into the one of the plurality of module interfaces.

Moon discloses system and method for configuring and deploying I/O cards in a

communications environment comprising the following features:

Regarding claims 1 and 7, Moon discloses selecting the interface personality (see col. 1 lines 50 – 55, a selected configuration parameter).

Regarding claims 5 and 11, Moon discloses selecting the new interface personality (see abstract and col. 1 lines 50 – 55, selected configuration).

Regarding claims 6 and 12, Moon discloses wherein negotiating, selecting and applying the interface personality are dynamic and occur automatically upon plugging the module into the one of the plurality of module interfaces (see col. 6 lines 1 – 16, automatically configured resources and 'plug and play').

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Chou, and use the features, as taught by Moon, thus providing for an efficient configuration and deployment technique, as discussed by Moon (see col. 1 lines 35 - 45).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ngoc Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 270-5139. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, from 7AM to 3PM (alternate first Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kwang Yao can be reached on 5712723182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Anh Ngoc Nguyen/
Examiner, Art Unit 2616
04/09/2008

/Kwang B. Yao/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2616